

TALES OF THE UNUSUAL

STORY/ART BY SUNGDAE OH

LUCIDITY CONTROLLER: PART 5



A man in a dark suit, white shirt, and dark tie is looking towards a woman. The woman has long, dark hair and is wearing a light-colored top. They are in an indoor setting with a window in the background.

WE CAN FINALLY
JUST TALK FREELY.

HEHE, YEAH,



YOU SHOULD GET
AN OSCAR FOR
ALL THAT ACTING.

BUT ARE YOU
SURE HE'S
REALLY ASLEEP?

DON'T WORRY.
THE SLEEP-INDUCING
CONTROLLER
I UPGRADED YESTERDAY
IS A LOT STRONGER
THAN YOU THINK.

THE POWER
LEVEL IS AT
80 RIGHT NOW.

BEEP

ACTIVATING SLEEP INDUCER CONTROLS.

POWER - 80

BEEP

AND AS LONG AS
IT DOESN'T DROP
BELOW 70, HE WON'T
WAKE UP EASILY EVEN
IF YOU SHAKE HIM.

I SEE. SO HE WENT
RIGHT TO SLEEP
WITHOUT EVEN
KNOWING WHAT'S
REALLY GOING ON.

AS LONG AS WE
DON'T TURN OFF
THE CONTROLLER,
HE'LL SPEND THE REST
OF HIS LIFE DREAMING.





SO HE'S BASICALLY
A HUMAN VEGÉTABLE
WHO DREAMS.

HEY,
MAN.



THE LUCIDITY
CONTROLLER HAS
ALREADY BEEN
FINISHED FOR AGES.

WE WERE JUST
BUYING TIME UNTIL
WE COULD PUT YOU
TO SLEEP FOREVER.

HOW WILL PEOPLE
REMEMBER HIM?

STEP

AS A TRAGIC RESEARCHER
WHO ENDED HIS LIFE
AS A CRIPPLE BECAUSE
OF HIS DETERMINATION
FOR HIS RESEARCH.



?

A man with dark hair, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and dark tie, is shown from the chest up. He has a surprised expression with wide eyes and a slightly open mouth. A speech bubble above his head contains the text "HUH..?". The background is a simple grey wall with a horizontal yellow stripe. A dark, out-of-focus shape is visible on the left side of the frame.

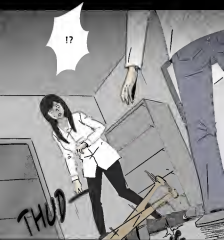
HUH..?



!?

THUD

CLANG





JUNG...

JUNGMOON..!?



YOU DON'T
NEED TO ACT
SO SURPRISED.

THE LIGHT
MAY BE ON,
BUT IT'S FAKE.

A hand with a yellowish skin tone is shown from the wrist down, holding a red rectangular button with a black border. The hand is positioned over a white rectangular box. The background is a light gray wall with some faint, sketchy lines. Two speech bubbles are present: one on the left and one on the right.

JUST LIKE
HOW YOU
TRICKED ME..

THIS IS
MY WAY OF
TRICKING YOU.







WAKE UP,
MINHYUK!



I DON'T WANT
YOU TO MISS OUT
ON SOMETHING
LIKE THIS.



UH..
UMM...

WHEN I THINK OF
HOW YOU'VE LIED TO
ME THIS WHOLE TIME,
I REALLY JUST WANT TO
HIT YOU RIGHT NOW...



BUT JUDGING FROM
THE LOOK OF CONFUSION
ON YOUR FACE, IT LOOKS LIKE
I'LL HAVE TO EXPLAIN
THIS A BIT.

THAT DAY, IT WAS PURE
LUCK THAT I CALLED
MINHYUK OVER NEAR
THE LAB BECAUSE
I WAS SO TIRED.

HE LEFT?
ALRIGHT, SONG.
I'LL BE RIGHT
THERE.

~~~~~

ANYWAY, LET'S GET  
THIS TO THE END.  
I DON'T WANT TO KEEP  
RUNNING IN CIRCLES  
LIKE THIS FOREVER.







AFTER HEARING  
FROM MINHYUK,  
SOMETHING SENT  
CHILLS DOWN  
MY SPINE.

ACTUALLY, IT DIDN'T  
REALLY MATTER HOW  
LONG YOU TWO  
HAD BEEN WORKING  
TOGETHER.



THIS SEEMINGLY  
ENDLESS  
EXPERIMENT.

ME, SLOWLY  
FALLING APART.

AND  
25 BILLION  
WON.



PLUS THE FACT THAT  
YOU WOULD HAVE  
ALL OF THAT MONEY  
TO YOURSELF  
IF I WERE GONE.

IT WOULDN'T BE  
STRANGE AT ALL  
IF I WERE TO DIE  
ALL OF A SUDDEN.





A black and white illustration of a man with dark hair, wearing a light-colored long-sleeved shirt and dark trousers, sitting on a bench. He is looking towards the right. The background is a simple, dark grey wall.

SO MINHYUK AND I  
HURRIED TO MAKE  
THIS FAKE LUCIDITY  
CONTROLLER.

SINCE I HAD  
TO SEE WITH  
MY OWN  
TWO EYES.

A black and white illustration showing a hand from above holding a metal ring. Below, another hand is trapped inside a dark, cylindrical object. The background is a light, textured surface.

WHAT KIND OF  
TRAP I HAD  
FALLEN INTO.

THANKS.

I WAS SO COMFORTABLE  
LAYING THERE AND  
I COULD HEAR EVERYTHING  
REALLY CLEARLY.





NOW,  
CHOOSE.

THE BAT, OR  
THE LUCIDITY  
CONTROLLER.

THE LUCIDITY  
CONTROLLER MAKES  
ANYTHING YOU CAN  
IMAGINE POSSIBLE.



AND AS YOU CAN  
GUESS FROM ITS  
AMAZING FUNCTIONS,  
THE DEVELOPMENT  
PROCESS SURE  
WASN'T EASY.

THE LUCIDITY  
CONTROLLER WAS  
CREATED BY  
A HANDFUL OF  
ELITE RESEARCHERS.



THEY DEVOTED  
THEMSELVES TO  
THIS RESEARCH FOR  
THE SAKE OF  
OUR DREAMS.

I WOULD LIKE TO  
EXPRESS MY RESPECT  
FOR TWO DEVELOPERS  
IN PARTICULAR...



WHO ARE WORKING  
DAY AND NIGHT  
IN THE LAB EVEN NOW.

GRAB







LOOKING GOOD,  
YOU TWO.



**I BOOSTED  
THE POWER LEVEL  
TO THE MAXIMUM.**

YOU WORKED  
SO HARD TO MAKE  
THIS FOR ME.

BEEP

[ ACTIVATING SLEEP INDUCER CONTROLS

POWER = 100 (MAX)

BEEP

SO I JUST THOUGHT  
THAT USING IT TO ITS  
FULL POTENTIAL WOULD  
BE THE RIGHT  
THING TO DO.

A black and white photograph of a man in a dark suit, white shirt, and dark tie. He is looking down with a serious expression. His right hand is resting on a surface, and his left hand is in his pocket. A speech bubble is positioned above him, and another one is below him.

I'M SURE YOU  
DON'T NEED ME  
TO TELL YOU.

HOW TO  
WAKE UP FROM  
YOUR DREAM.

AAAGHH

UGH

OF COURSE...

UGGHH

STAB

IT CERTAINLY  
WON'T BE EASY,  
THOUGH.

End.



LINE Webtoon